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November 6, 2020

FILED AND SERVED ELECTRONICALLY

Hon. Alison J. Nathan
United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
40 Foley Square, Room 2102
New York, NY 10007

Re: *BYD Company Ltd. v. VICE Media LLC, No. 20-CV-03281*

Dear Judge Nathan:

This firm represents Plaintiff BYD Company Ltd. ("BYD") in the above-captioned action and writes on behalf of all parties.

Under the current schedule in the case, the parties are required to submit a proposed case management plan to the Court on November 6, 2020, once the temporary stay of discovery expires. *See* ECF No. 13. The parties have an initial conference scheduled for November 13, 2020, but are uncertain as to whether they should still file a proposed plan because Defendant VICE Media LLC ("VICE") has filed a letter requesting a full stay in discovery pending the resolution of its motion to dismiss and BYD indicated in its response letter that it does not oppose waiting an additional two to four weeks for the Court to rule on VICE's motion to dismiss (but BYD opposes anything longer).

VICE proposes that entry of a case management plan be postponed until after the resolution of its motion to dismiss. And, VICE does not believe BYD's proposed discovery schedule – with only four months for fact discovery – is realistic, as much of the discovery in this case will take place in China.

BYD proposes that the Court approve the proposed plan attached hereto.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES J. HARDER Of
HARDER LLP

cc: All counsel of record via ECF
Attachment: Proposed Case Management Plan

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X
 :
 BYD Company Ltd., :
 Plaintiff(s), : 20 ___ Civ. ___(AJN)
 -v- :
 VICE Media LLC, :
 Defendant(s). :
 :
 :
 -----X

This Civil Case Management Plan (the “Plan”) is submitted by the parties in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3).

1. All parties [consent / do not consent] to conducting all further proceedings before a United States Magistrate Judge, including motions and trial pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). The parties are free to withhold consent without adverse substantive consequences.

[If all parties consent, the remaining paragraphs need not be completed.]

2. Settlement discussions [have / have not] taken place.
3. The parties [have / have not] conferred pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f).

4. **[For F.L.S.A. actions only]**

The plaintiff(s) [do / do not] anticipate moving for conditional certification of this case as a collective action.

The defendant(s) [will / will not] stipulate to conditional certification.

[If defendant(s) will not stipulate to conditional certification:]

Proposed briefing schedule:

Opening: _____

Opposition: _____

Reply: _____

[Opening brief to be filed no later than 30 days from the date of the initial pretrial conference; full briefing to be completed within 30 days of the opening brief]

5. Amended pleadings may not be filed and additional parties may not be joined except with leave of the Court. Any motion to amend or to join additional parties shall be filed within 30 days from the date of this Order. [Absent exceptional circumstances, choose a date not more than thirty (30) days following the initial pretrial conference.]
6. Initial disclosures pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) shall be completed no later than 14 days from the date of this Order. [Absent exceptional circumstances, a date not more than fourteen (14) days following the initial pretrial conference.]
7. All fact discovery is to be completed no later than March 12, 2021. [A date not more than 120 days following the initial pretrial conference, unless the Court finds that the case presents unique complexities or other exceptional circumstances.]
8. The parties are to conduct discovery in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of the Southern District of New York. The following interim deadlines may be extended by the parties on consent without application to the Court, provided that the parties meet the deadline for completing fact discovery set forth in ¶ 7 above.
 - a. Initial requests for production of documents shall be served by November 30, 2020.
 - b. Interrogatories shall be served by November 30, 2020.
 - c. Depositions shall be completed by March 12, 2021.
 - d. Requests to admit shall be served by November 30, 2020.
9. All expert discovery, including disclosure of expert reports, production of underlying documents, and depositions shall be completed by May 3, 2021. [Absent exceptional circumstances, a date forty-five (45) days from the completion of fact discovery].
10. All motions and applications shall be governed by the Court's Individual Rules.
11. All counsel must meet in person for at least one hour to discuss settlement within fourteen (14) days following the close of fact discovery.

12. Counsel for the parties propose the following alternative dispute resolution mechanism(s) for this case:

- a. Referral to a Magistrate Judge for a settlement conference.
- b. Referral to the Southern District's Mediation Program.
- c. Retention of a private mediator.

The parties seek the above-noted referral [now / at a later date].

Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, settlement discussions do not stay or modify any date in this Order.

[If the parties seek the above-noted referral at a later date:]

Counsel for the parties will submit a letter by _____ seeking the referral.

13. Summary Judgment and *Daubert* motions are to be filed within 30 days of the close of all discovery. Absent good cause, the Court will not ordinarily have summary judgment practice in a non-jury case.

14. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, within forty (40) days of the close of all discovery, or, if a dispositive motion has been filed, within fourteen (14) days of a decision on such motion, the parties file via ECF a Joint Pretrial Report prepared in accordance with the Court's Individual Practices and Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3). Any motions *in limine* shall be filed via ECF at the same time that the a Joint Pretrial Report is filed. If this action is to be tried before a jury, proposed *voir dire*, jury instructions, and a verdict form shall also be filed at the same time as the Joint Pretrial Report.

15. The parties shall be ready for trial within two weeks of filing the Joint Pretrial Report.

16. This case [is / is not] to be tried to a jury.

17. Other issues to be addressed at the Initial Pretrial Conference, including those set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3), are set forth below.

Counsel for the Parties:

Charles J. Harder

Rachel Strom

Harder LLP

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Counsel for Plaintiff BYD Company Ltd.

Counsel for Defendant VICE Media LLC

Except for the dates contained in ¶ 8 above, this Order may not be modified or the dates herein extended, except by further Order of this Court for good cause shown. Any application to modify or extend the dates herein shall be made in a written application in accordance with Court's Individual Rules and shall be made no fewer than two (2) business days prior to the expiration of the date sought to be extended. Absent exceptional circumstances, extensions will not be granted after deadlines have already passed. Ongoing settlement discussions do not extend any date herein unless expressly ordered by the Court.

The next Case Management Conference is scheduled for _____ at _____.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: _____
New York, New York

JUDGE ALISON J. NATHAN
United States District Judge